## AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1.      (Currently Amended)  An image capture apparatus comprising:

an image capture unit adapted to capture an image;

an information generation unit adapted to generate specific information relating to the image data;

a recording unit adapted to record image data for obtained from the captured image and the specific information on a recording medium;

a reproducing unit adapted to reproduce the image data and the specific information from the recording medium;

an embedding unit adapted to embed the specific information into the image data using a digital watermarking technique; and

an outputting unit adapted to output the image data including the specific information or the image data not including the specific information to the outside; and

a selecting unit adapted to select a first process or a second process in accordance with user's instruction,

wherein, when the first process is selected, the embedding unit embeds the specific information into the image data and the outputting unit outputs the image data including the specific information to the outside, and

wherein, when the second process is selected, the embedding unit does not embed avoids embedding the specific information into the image data and the outputting unit outputs the image data not including the specific information to the outside.

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2.      (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the embedding unit is adapted to embed the specific information into the decompressed

image data.


3. to 4.  (Canceled)


5.      (Currently Amended)  A method for <u>use in</u> an image capture

apparatus comprising the steps of:

capturing an image;

<u>generating specific information relating to the image data;</u>

recording image data ~~of~~ <u>obtained from</u> the captured image <u>and the specific

information</u> on a recording medium;

reproducing the image data ~~captured~~ <u>and the specific information</u> from the

recording medium;

embedding <u>the</u> specific information into the image data using a digital

watermarking technique; <u>and</u>

~~outputting the image data including the specific information or the image~~

~~data not including the specific information to the outside; and~~

selecting a first process or a second process in accordance with user's

instruction,

wherein, when the first process is selected, the embedding step embeds the

specific information into the image data ~~and the outputting step outputs the image data~~

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~~including the specific information to the outside~~, and

~~wherein,~~ when the second process is selected, the embedding step ~~does not embed~~ avoids embedding the specific information into the image data ~~and the outputting step outputs the image data not including the specific information to the outside~~.

6.      (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein the embedding step is a step of embedding the specific information into the decompressed image data.

7. to 8. (Canceled)

9.      (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program for use in an image capture apparatus, the program performing the steps of:

capturing an image;

generating specific information relating to the image data;

recording image data ~~of~~ obtained from the captured image and the specific information on a recording medium;

reproducing the image data ~~captured~~ and the specific information from the recording medium;

embedding the specific information into the image data using a digital watermarking technique; and

selecting a first process or a second process in accordance with user's

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instruction,

wherein, when the first process is selected, the embedding step embeds the specific information into the image data ~~and the outputting step outputs the image data including the specific information to the outside~~, and

~~wherein,~~ when the second process is selected, the embedding step ~~does not embed~~ avoids embedding the specific information into the image data ~~and the outputting step outputs the image data not including the specific information to the outside~~.

10.     (Previously Presented)  A storage medium according to claim 9, wherein the embedding step is a step of embedding the specific information into the decompressed image data.

11. to 12.  (Canceled)

13.     (Previously Presented)  An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the apparatus generates the specific information when the image is captured.

14.     (Previously Presented)  A method according to claim 5, further comprising a step of generating the specific information when the image is captured.

15.     (Previously Presented)  A storage medium according to claim 9, the program further comprises a step of generating the specific information when the image is

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captured.

16.     (New) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an outputting unit adapted to output the image data to a destination external to the image capture apparatus,

wherein, when the first process is selected, the outputting unit outputs the image data including the specific information to the external destination, and

wherein, when the second process is selected, the outputting unit outputs the image data excluding the specific information to the external destination.

17.     (New) A method according to claim 5, further comprising a step of outputting the image data to a destination external to the image capture apparatus,

wherein, when the first process is selected, the outputting step outputs the image data including the specific information to the external destination, and

wherein, when the second process is selected, the outputting step outputs the image data excluding the specific information to the external destination.

18.     (New) A storage medium according to claim 9, the program further comprises a step of outputting the image data to a destination external to the image capture apparatus,

wherein, when the first process is selected, the outputting step outputs the image data including the specific information to the external destination, and

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wherein, when the second process is selected, the outputting step outputs the

image data excluding the specific information to the external destination.